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were sung, enlivened the festivities of the evening; and the influence of the *Awen* was strongly evinced in several extemporary effusions of much merit. A learned address in Welsh from the Rev. John Richards of Anglesey, Critic to the Society, was read in the course of the evening; and, as on the former anniversary, the Rev. gentleman's erudition called forth the well merited applause of the meeting. In a word, the spirit, displayed by the members of this infant society, is highly creditable to the natives of Wales, resident in Liverpool, and is well worthy of imitation in other large English towns, where a similar observance of our national customs would not only help to unite our countrymen in a brotherly league amongst themselves, but would also

“ — bind them to their native mountains more,”

and thus contribute to the expansion of that patriotic flame, which has, at length, been so happily kindled in Wales. * *

LITERATURE.

CYFRINACH Y BEIRDD.—It is well known to those, who have any acquaintance with our ancient MSS., that there exists, under the preceding title, a treatise, of considerable antiquity, on Welsh poetry, and, more particularly, on its prosody. Proposals have recently been made for publishing this work from a MS. in the possession of Mr. Edward Williams, the celebrated Bard of Glamorgan; the expenses of the publication to be paid by subscription, and the work to be put to press as soon as a sufficient sum is subscribed for that purpose. If the MS. of this treatise, in the possession of Mr. Williams, be similar to that under the same title in the Hengwrt collection, it consists of various tracts on grammar, rhetoric, and prosody, and cannot fail, therefore, to prove a rich treat to the Welsh scholar, and particularly to the votaries of the *Awen*. For, it is somewhat remarkable, considering the predilections of the Welsh for poetical productions, that no regular dissertation on the peculiarities of our national muse has yet appeared, with the exception, indeed, of the learned work of Dr. J. D. Rhys, which, however, does not come up to the full idea here contemplated. At all events, an English treatise on this subject is still a *desideratum*, and one which the publication, now proposed, is not meant to supply. Yet the materials, in which it will necessarily abound, must furnish a valuable accession to this branch of our national literature, and of which, it may be hoped, some future writer will avail himself, to illustrate, in a full and satisfactory manner, the particular cha-

racter of Welsh poetry*. For, at present, the *phenomena* it presents, as compared with the principles of the poetry of other countries, are entirely unknown beyond the boundaries of Wales; and even within them a perfect knowledge prevails only to a very limited extent. For these reasons it is extremely desirable, that the project, here noticed, should meet with every encouragement.

The Hengwrt copy of "Cyfrinach y Beirdd" was transcribed from a MS. of Gutyn Owain by the celebrated antiquary Mr. Robert Vaughan, and by whom it was enriched with several elaborate annotations, as well as some important additions, which might, possibly, be of service in the publication now contemplated. At least, the Hengwrt MS. ought to be previously consulted.

The proposals, alluded to in this article, originated at a sort of bardic festival, held, in the early part of last month, at the hospitable residence of the Rev. J. Jenkins of Kerry, whose truly patriotic ardour, and liberal exertions, in the cause of Welsh literature, so justly entitle him to be regarded as the Ivor Hael of the present day.

* *

OBITUARY.

NOVEMBER.—22d, Mr. Owen Rees, of Haverfordwest.—27th, At Cardigan, aged 24, William Morgan Williams, Esq., of Tre-fach, Pembrokeshire.—29th, At Hieres, in the South of France, aged 43, William Shipley, Esq., eldest son of the Very Rev. Dean of St. Asaph, being accidentally killed by the gun of a peasant, who accompanied him on a shooting excursion, and which occasioned his immediate death.—*ib.*, At his residence in North Wales, Lord Viscount Kirkwall, heir presumptive to the earldom of Orkney, in his 42d year.—30th, At Dan-y-coed, Cardiganshire, aged 81, the Rev. Phillip Maurice, who had, for 45 years, been a diligent minister of the Independent Churches of Ty-'n-y-gwndwn and Ebenezer.—*ib.*, Thomas Jones, Esq. of Llandissilio, in the county of Denbigh.—DECEMBER.—2d, In London, Edward Corbet, Esq., of Ynyysymaengwyn, in the county of Merioneth, a gentleman, who had been long distinguished by his politeness and hospitality.—6th, At Neath, after an illness of two years, Mrs.

* In a letter from Mr. Edward Williams in the third volume of the Cambrian Register, p. 377, the venerable bard expresses his intention to write "a little treatise on the versification of Welsh poetry from the earliest ages, of which we have any remains, to the present day." He would do an essential service to his country by completing this patriotic design. The letter, here cited was written in 1810.